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CONFIRMATION NO. FILING DATE FIRST NAMED INVENTOR ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. APPLICATION NO. 8708 11362.0034.P 09/786,481 03/05/2001 Frank Hulstaert EXAMINER 05/14/2004 NICHOLS, CHRISTOPHER J Patricia A Kammerer Howrey Simon Arnold & White ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER 750 Bering Drive Houston, TX 77057-2198 1647

DATE MAILED: 05/14/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.



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APPLICATION NO./ CONTROL NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR / PATENT IN REEXAMINATION		ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	
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			DATE MAILED:		

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Commissioner for Patents

Art Unit: 1647

DETAILED ACTION

Suspension

1. A reference relevant to the examination of this application may soon become available. *Ex parte* prosecution is SUSPENDED FOR A PERIOD OF 6 MONTHS from the date of this letter. Upon expiration of the period of suspension, applicant should make an inquiry as to the status of the application.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to **Christopher James Nichols**, **Ph.D.** whose telephone number is (571) 272-0889. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday, 8:00 AM to 6:00 PM. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, **Gary Kunz**, **Ph.D.** can be reached on (571) 272-0887.

The fax number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

CJN

May 10, 2004

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